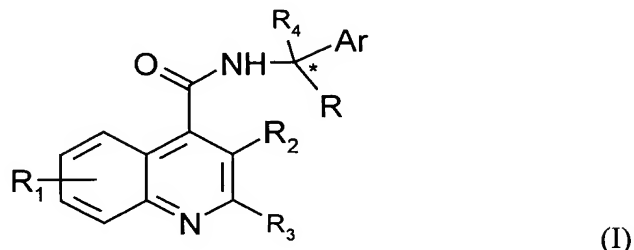


IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A compound, or a solvate or a salt thereof, of formula (I):



wherein, Ar is an optionally substituted aryl or a C₅₋₇ cycloalkdienyl group, or a C₅₋₇ cycloalkyl group or an optionally substituted single or fused ring aromatic heterocyclic group;

R is C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₃₋₇ cycloalkyl, C₃₋₇ cycloalkylalkyl, optionally substituted phenyl or phenyl C₁₋₆ alkyl, an optionally substituted five-membered heteroaromatic ring comprising up to four heteroatoms selected from O and N, hydroxy C₁₋₆ alkyl, amino C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkylaminoalkyl, di C₁₋₆ alkylaminoalkyl, C₁₋₆ acylaminoalkyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxyalkyl, C₁₋₆ alkylcarbonyl, carboxy, C₁₋₆ alkoxycarbonyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxycarbonyl C₁₋₆ alkyl, aminocarbonyl, C₁₋₆ alkylaminocarbonyl, di C₁₋₆ alkylaminocarbonyl, halogeno C₁₋₆ alkyl; or R is a group -(CH₂)_p- wherein p is 2 or 3 which group forms a ring with a carbon atom of Ar;

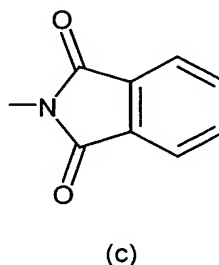
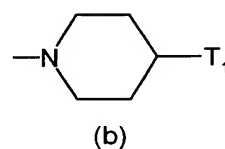
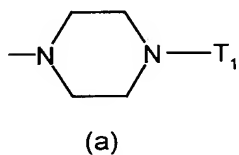
R₁ represents hydrogen or up to four optional substituents selected from the list consisting of: C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkenyl, aryl, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, hydroxy, halogen, nitro, cyano, carboxy, carboxamido, sulphonamido, C₁₋₆ alkoxycarbonyl, trifluoromethyl, acyloxy, phthalimido, amino or mono- and di-C₁₋₆ alkylamino;

R₂ represents a moiety -(CH₂)_n-NY₁Y₂ wherein n is an integer in the range of from 1 to 9, Y₁ and Y₂ are independently selected from hydrogen; C₁₋₆-alkyl; C₁₋₆ alkyl substituted with hydroxy, C₁₋₆ alkylamino or bis (C₁₋₆ alkyl) amino; C₁₋₆-alkenyl; aryl or aryl-C₁₋₆-alkyl or Y₁ and Y₂ together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached represent an optionally substituted N-linked single or fused ring heterocyclic group;

R₃ is branched or linear C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₃₋₇ cycloalkyl, C₄₋₇ cycloalkylalkyl, optionally substituted aryl, or an optionally substituted single or fused ring aromatic heterocyclic group; and

R₄ represents hydrogen or C₁₋₆ alkyl.

2. (Original) A compound according to claim 1, wherein Ar represents unsubstituted phenyl.
3. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, wherein R represents C₁₋₆ alkyl.
4. (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein R₁ represents hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkoxy.
5. (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein R₂ is an N-linked single or fused heterocyclic groups, in which any single or fused ring is saturated or unsaturated and consists of 5- or 6- ring atoms, said ring atoms optionally comprising 1 or 2 additional heteroatoms selected from O or N and wherein one or two ring atoms are optionally substituted with one or two oxo groups or one or two of hydroxy, carboxy, C₁₋₆ alkoxycarbonyl, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ hydroxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, C₃₋₇ cycloalkyl, or a single or fused ring aromatic heterocyclic group, or the substituents on adjacent ring atoms form a carbocyclic ring; said aryl or aromatic heterocyclic groups being optionally substituted with one or two C₁₋₆ alkyl, alkoxy, hydroxy, halogen or halogenalkyl groups.
6. (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, wherein R₂ is a moiety of formula (a), (b) or (c):



wherein T₁ represents hydroxy, carboxy, C₁₋₆ alkoxy carbonyl, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ hydroxyalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl or C₃₋₇ cycloalkyl.

7. (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, wherein R₂ is a moiety a moiety of formula (a).

8. (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, wherein R₃ is a phenyl group.

9. (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, wherein R₄ is hydrogen.

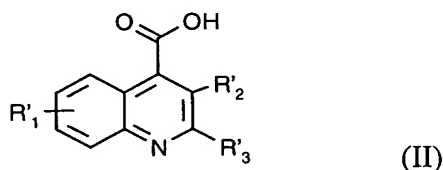
10. (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, wherein n is an integer 1, 2 or 3.

11. (Original) A compound according to claim 1, wherein Ar is phenyl, R is ethyl, R₁ is hydrogen, R₃ is phenyl, R₄ is hydrogen and R₂ is a moiety -(CH₂)_n-NY₁Y₂ wherein n is 1, 2, 3 or 4 and NY₁Y₂ is:

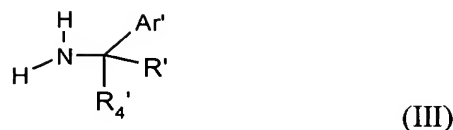
- (i) a moiety of the above defined formula (a);
- (ii) a moiety of the above defined formula (b); or
- (iii) a moiety of the above defined formula (c).

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) according to claim 1, or a salt thereof and/or a solvate thereof, which process comprises reacting a compound of formula (II) or an active derivative thereof:



wherein R'₁, R'₂ and R'₃ are R₁, R₂ and R₃ respectively as defined in relation to formula (I) or a group convertible to R₁, R₂ and R₃ respectively; with a compound of formula (III):



prophylaxis an effective, non-toxic pharmaceutically acceptable amount of a compound of formula (I) according to claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.

19. (Original) A compound of formula (I) according to claim 1, for use as a diagnostic tool for assessing the degree to which neurokinin-3 and neurokinin-2 receptor activity (normal, overactivity or underactivity) is implicated in a patient's symptoms.